

R E M A R K S

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1, 5, 7-10, 14-17, and 19 will be amended and claims 2-4, 18, and 20 will be canceled. Thus, claims 1, 5-17, and 19 will remain pending in the application. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

As a preliminary matter, the claims have been amended in view of the Examiner's helpful comments regarding 35 USC 101. In particular, the claims now recite "outputting information associated with [an] adjusted circuit design" (or similar language) which is a tangible result of embodiments of the present invention.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that previously pending claim 4 contained allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 4 and intervening claims 2-3. As a result, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claim 1 and claims 5-7 dependent thereon.

Applicants also gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's statement that previously pending claim 8 contained allowable subject matter. Claim 8 has been re-written in independent form and includes the limitations of previously intervening claims. As a result, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claim 8 and claim 9 dependent thereon.

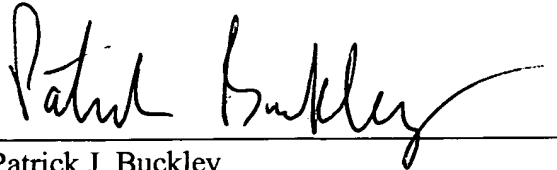
Similarly, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that previously pending claim 10 contained allowable subject matter. Claim 10 has been re-written in independent form and includes the limitations of any previously intervening claim. As a result, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claim 10 along with claims 11-16 dependent thereon.

Claims 17 and 19 have been amended to include limitations similar to those now found in claim 10 and should therefore also now be allowable.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-0191.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Buckley", written over a horizontal line.

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Date

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